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he would hold an enquiry in pursuance of the promise or undertaking that he gave on a former occasion. It is for the enquiring officer to find out whether there is any material worth while. Only on the basis of his report the Government can find out whether there is sufficient evidence or not. I want to know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister will hold the enquiry and find out whether there is sufficient material or not. Mere lapse of two or two and a half years does not make the evidence stale or worthless.''

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—'' I am sorry to say that the hon. Member is arguing just like Mr. Nagi Reddi. The representation made by Mr. Narayanan Nambiar was given to me. I received it, thereupon made enquiries, looked into the matter and came to this conclusion.''

Declaration of Visakhapatnam district as a famine area.

* 260 *Q.*—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government are considering the question of declaring Visakhapatnam district as a famine area?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—'' The answer is in the negative.''

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO:—'' ఒక ప్రాంతాన్ని కరువు ప్రాంతగా ప్రకటించవలెనంటే అక్కడ ఆకలిచావులు మొదలైనవి ప్రారంభమైనప్పుడే ప్రకటిస్తారా లేక పంటలు పాడైనపుడుకూడా అట్లు చేయుటకు అవకాశమున్నదా ?''

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—'' When conditions are bad, relief will be given.''

SRI K. V. RAMESAM:—'' In view of the fact that the Collector reported to the Government about the condition of the Visakhapatnam district, that there was total failure of paddy and millet crops and that the irrigation sources were badly in need of repair, will the Government be pleased to take up at least two items: remitting the land-cess wholesale and the repair of minor irrigation works and communications which are badly in need of repair? ''

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—'' The conditions in Yellamanchili and Narasapatnam taluks are said to be bad. Both the Collector and the Famine Commissioner are closely watching the situation and the needful will be done when a report again comes.''

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—'' May I know the extent of failure in each taluk reported by the Collector? ''

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—'' According to the report for the week ending 19th November—

'Transplantation in the district has been completed and the condition of the standing crops is poor to fair. Water-supply is said to be adequate except in Yellamanchili and Narasapatnam taluks. Fodder, seeds and labour are available.'

The Collector has, however, said that the prospects are not encouraging. The Collector and the Famine Commissioner are closely watching the situation and the needful will be done.''

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ ఇప్పుడు మంత్రిగారు చదివిన రిపోర్టుబట్టి విశాఖజిల్లాలో పంటలు ఎంతమాత్రం తృప్తికరంగా లేనట్లు విశదమౌతున్నది కనుక మంత్రిగారు ఆ ప్రాంతాన్ని కరువుప్రాంతంగా అంగీకరిస్తారా, అంగీకరించినట్లయితే దానిని ఆ విధంగా declare చేసి కరువు పనులు ఎందువల్ల ప్రారంభంచేయడంలేదు ? ”

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—“ I am awaiting the latest report.''

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—“ Does a distressed are cease to be a famine area if the Hon. Minister fancies the other way? ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The Hon. Minister does not fancy.”

Keelanilai-Puduputty dispensary, Pudukkottai Division.

2-20 p.m. * 261 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Keelanilai-Puduputty dispensary in Pudukkottai Division, Tiruchirappalli district, is functioning at present;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there has been no medical officer for some months in the dispensary; and

(*c*) if so, for how many months and why?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (*a*) *to* (*c*) Due to acute shortage of personnel in the cadre of Assistant Surgeons, the post of Assistant Surgeon at Government Dispensary, Keelanilai, has been vacant from 1st July 1952. An Assistant Surgeon of the Town General Hospital, Pudukottai, has been temporarily deputed to work in the dispensary on the afternoons of Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays since 20th September 1952. A Medical Officer will be posted to the dispensary as soon as possible.''

Allegations against a purchasing inspector of Kottayam taluk.

* 262 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the purchasing inspector in charge of Anjerakkandi amsam and suburbs in Kottayam taluk, Malabar district, has taken away the ration cards of many peasants, landless peasants and poor people, and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ The answer is in the negative.''